

Queen and Junior Queen competitors vied for top points

By Lisa Moule
Editor

Competition was tough for the Queen and Junior Queen competitors this year as they battled the frigid tem-

peratures and new female trappers at the local scene.

New to the Trappers' Festival Queen competition this year were rookies Andria Constant, Norma Cook and

Stephanie Masson, the others were seasoned competitors, Diane Cook (Buck) in particular for 17 years now; Crystal Constant and Clarrissa Danielson (Burns) for 12 years.

Other long time competitors included Janice Steiner who has been in the Trappers' Festival Queen Trapper events for five years now and Kristen Burns who has been competing in the adult competition for the past two years. She competed in the Junior competition for three years before that.

Carla Buck (former Fur Queen and former Junior Queen Trapper) was in the junior competition for six years before coming of age and competing for four years in the adult category. She took a year off to try her hand at the Fur Queen competition, a title she ended up winning.

Meanwhile, the junior female competitors where also battling the frigid temperatures.

There were three rookies coming into the competition this year, Michelle Martin, Karalee Constant and Kristine Henderson. Jesse George and Candace Dale have been competing for three

years now and Nikki Constant and Dakota McGillivray for the past two years.

Skills were tested beyond some limits as the girls in both age groups got started Friday morning. The competition continued on into Saturday, ending with a winner for each. Many picked up individual prize money at the Festival Highlites for placing first, second or third.

Log Sawing—A section of a log was to be cut using a saw. The person to take the shortest time to do so, received first place.

Log Balancing—The one who stayed on the moving log the longest won.

Leg Wrestling—Laying on their backs in opposite directions, the girls were given a one, two, three, go count. They locked legs and attempted to flip the other over. The one to do so advanced up to the next level to eliminate the participants. The ones left at the end tried for first, second and third position.

Log Throw—The large end of the log is the throwing end. The con-

testant received two tries to get the log to flip and land the farthest away from the starting point.

Trap Setting—Setting a variety of traps, the women had to do so in the shortest time to win first place, then second and third.

Pack Race—Both the junior and senior contestants were required to pack a 25 kgs bag on their shoulders or back and race to the finish line.

Nail Driving—The contestants were required to drive in one ardox nail in the fastest possible time.

Tea Boiling—There were many different techniques used to start the fire, all ending up working to some degree or other. The main similarity was getting a good base of wood chips to start the fire then adding progressively larger chunks of wood.

The 'tea' (a can of snow with soap to help the judges tell if the water is boiling) was boiled upon the home made fire.

Bannock Baking—After the tea was boiled, the women began making their bannock, a

bread-type northern delicacy.

Each of the contestants had their own technique of making the bannock (flour, lard, salt and water) and had 45 minutes to produce their very best. It would be up to the panel of two judges to decide who would get first, second and third place.

The bannock was judged on color, consistency and taste. The bannock also had to be cooked right through.

Fish Filleting—The women were judged on how well they filleted their fish, how much they left on the discard and how many bones they managed to leave off the fillet.

Fish Fry—Judges bit into the fish, noting the taste, the consistency (existence of bones) and the overall look of the fillet.

Snowshoe Race—The junior contestants were required to race one mile (from one end of the Saskatchewan River across to the other side) and the senior contestants had a three mile course.

*See complete results this issue.

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